

From The Editor

THE 3 Rs: READIN', RITIN', AND REPUTATION

All too often professional development is a subject infantrymen talk about but take few steps to put into action. The infantryman cannot rely solely upon the service school or staff college to provide the professional development and expertise he needs to maintain his proficiency in the combat arms. There is a very real need for him to read and write within his profession. Traditionally, though, soldiers have cherished their image as men of action and have looked down their noses at the intellectuals who were left to write the history and postwar critiques of the military system.

Reading professional journals broadens your knowledge, generates ideas, and improves your credibility by expanding the experience base from which you draw judgment and opinion and ultimately make recommendations. In like manner, writing a professional article is good practice for thorough staff work. And in staff work, your reputation is on the line. It is evaluated by your ability to express yourself concisely and accurately. Research is a must, and few bosses will accept the "quick fix" and "seat of the pants" solution to a problem.

INFANTRY, your professional journal, is an excellent companion. It provides the latest training techniques from all over the world, book reviews to keep you abreast of current subject material, and a forum through which you can exchange ideas with other professionals.

Break the tunnel vision; there's more to being an infantryman than charging the hill! SUBSCRIBE to INFANTRY, READ it here, and WRITE down your ideas for others to share. Your REPUTATION is worth the time and discipline required.

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